

LIEUTENANT GENERAL RICHARD P. KLOCKO
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
DEFENSE COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Lieutenant General Richard Phillip Klocko assumed the position of Director, Defense Communications Agency on 15 November 1967 and was subsequently promoted to the rank of Lt. General upon being confirmed by the Senate on 13 December 1967.

General Klocko had been serving with DCA since July 1967 as Deputy Director of the Agency, and Deputy Director, National Military Command System Technical Support (NMCSTS).

As Director, DCA, General Klocko is responsible for the management and direction of the world-wide Defense Communications System, which embraces all long-haul, point-to-point assets of the Army, Navy and Air Force, as well as directing the development of a defense satellite communications system. An equally important responsibility is the system engineering and technical supervision of the implementation of technical support to the National Military Command System. He commands the DCA and its 20 field organizations which have global responsibilities for an effective, efficient, economic and survivable communications system. In addition he is assigned as the Manager, National Communications System, and is responsible for providing effective direction to the world-wide National Communications System, developing, by linking together, improving and extending, on an evolutionary basis, the communications facilities of the various Federal Agencies. The Director, DCA is also Chairman, Military Communications-Electronics Board and Senior U. S. Member to the NATO Communications-Electronics Board, providing a liaison point for joint and international communications matters.

General Klocko was born in Dunkirk, New York on February 26, 1915. He was graduated from Dunkirk High School in 1933, received a Congressional Appointment to the U. S. Military Academy and was graduated in 1937. After graduation, he completed primary and advanced flying training in October 1938.

The General's first assignment in the Army Air Corps was a two and one-half year tour with the 36th Pursuit Squadron, Langley Field, Virginia, and in 1941 he was transferred to the 36th Pursuit Group at Losey Field, Puerto Rico where he served until June 1942. At that time he was reassigned to England where he served in the Headquarters,

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European Theater of Operations until October 1942.

In October 1942 he was assigned to command the 350th Fighter Group being formed in England. General Klocko readied the unit, equipped with P-39 Fighters, for combat and moved to North Africa to support the invasion. In February 1943, while on a special mission over enemy lines dropping messages to isolated units, he was taken prisoner of war. For this special mission he received the Silver Star from the Commanding General, 1st Armored Division. He remained a prisoner of war in Germany until April 1945.

Following the end of the war, General Klocko was assigned to the War Department General Staff, Washington, D. C., from August 1945 to October 1947. He was then appointed Chief, Supplemental Research Branch, Director of Intelligence, Headquarters, USAF. From August 1949 to July 1950 he attended the Air War College and from July 1950 until July 1952 he served both as an instructor and member of the Air War College faculty. He remained at Maxwell AFB, Alabama, until July 1954 serving as a member of the Graduate Study Group, working on policy and doctrine for Air Force operations.

General Klocko was then assigned to the U. S. Air Force Security Service, Kelly AFB, Texas, as Deputy Chief of Staff, Operations. He served in this capacity until June 30, 1955 when he was reassigned as Chief of Staff, U. S. Air Force Security Service, a position he held until July 1956. During these assignments, he received the Legion of Merit for his contribution to the Security Service mission.

In July 1956, the General was appointed Commander, 6900th Security Wing, USAFE, Frankfurt, Germany. He commanded the Wing until August 1960. During this assignment he was promoted to Brigadier General. In August 1960, General Klocko was reassigned as Deputy Commander, U. S. Air Force Security Service. He was promoted to Major General in January 1962 and became Commander of U. S. Air Force Security Service on September 1, 1962.

General Klocko, a Command Pilot, assumed command of the Air Force Communications Service at Scott AFB, Illinois on October 19, 1965 and held this position until his reassignment to DCA. Upon his departure from AFCS he was awarded the second oak leaf cluster to the Legion of Merit for Meritorious Service as Commander, AFCS.

The General's decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Silver Star, Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters and the Army Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster.

General Klocko is married to the former Madelyn Norine Ahern of Nashua, New Hampshire. They have five children.

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